

Virginia Department of Transportation

GPS and RFID Advanced Technology Program

Matt McLaughlin

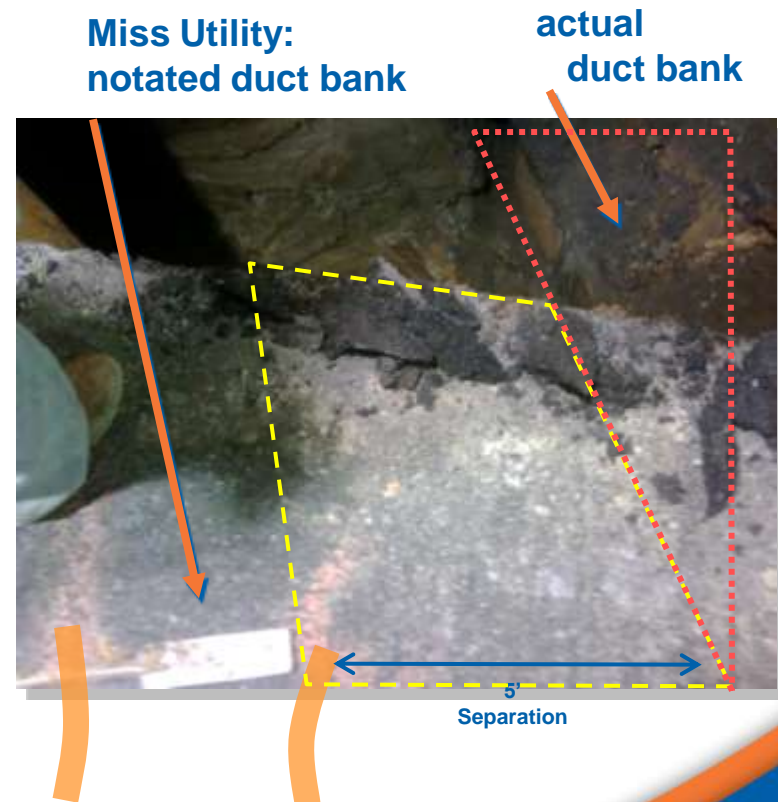
NOVA District Utility Construction Engineer

Virginia Department of Transportation

Various Field Issues



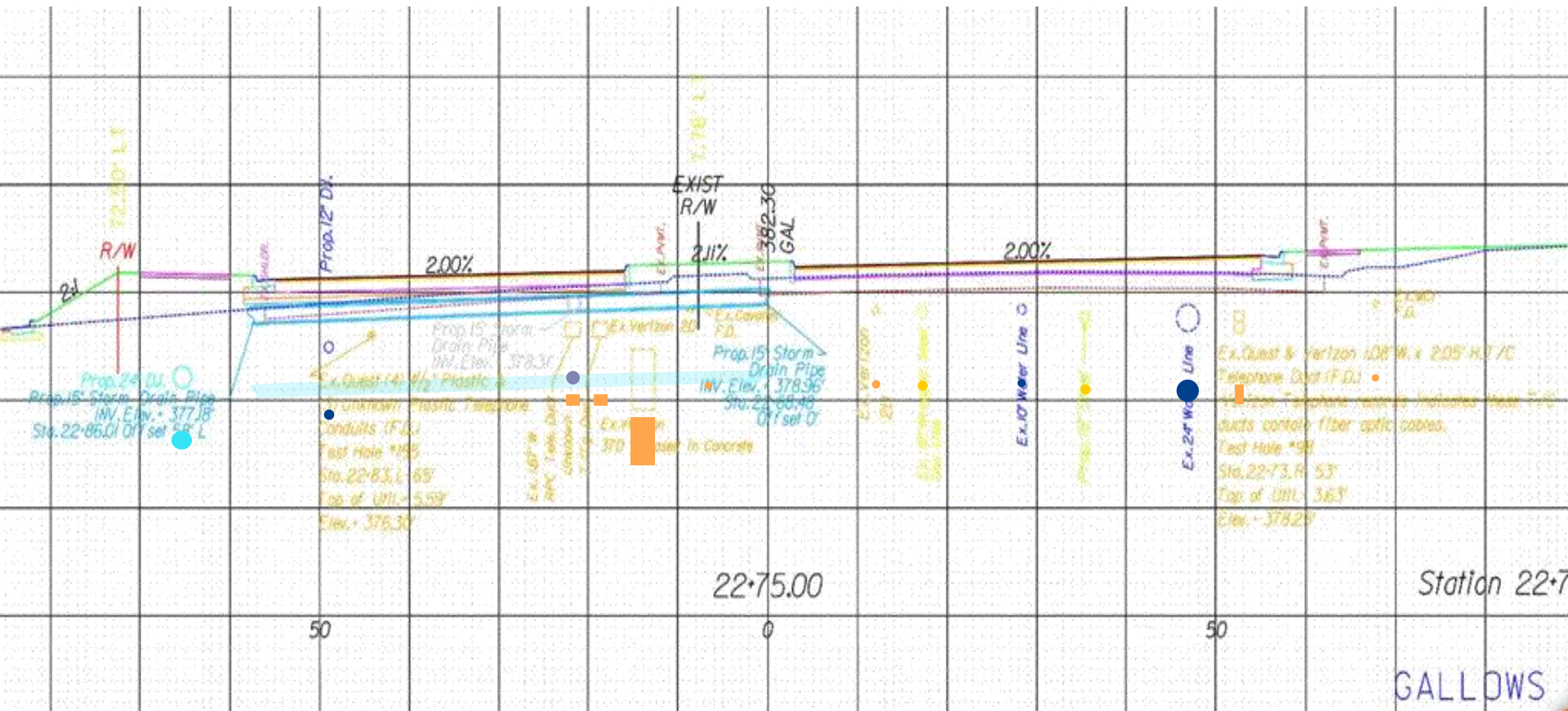
Miss Utility Marks



Rte. 29/Gallows Rd.



X-Section 22+75.00



GPS/RFID Pilot Program

- RFID will provide pertinent information to Utility Owners, Locators, Excavators, and Design Engineers.
- Assigns each programmable RFID tag with GPS coordinates for mapping and locating purposes.
- Compiles relocated or newly installed utility information for reference.
- RFID tags have proven to aid in the accuracy of utility locating in both vertical and horizontal aspects.
- Provides pertinent information to the Excavator for test pitting purposes that is normally unknown

Does not supersede any Miss Utility Laws

Protocol for RFID Marker Installation

Install RFID tags on relocated facilities:

- Every 25' for metallic and non-metallic pipes.
- Every horizontal, vertical directional change, critical existing utility crossings, service connections, and abandoned facilities.

Install RFID on existing facilities during test pit operations.

Programmable RFID tags provide vital information about the facility (Owner, Type, Elevation, etc.).

During utility construction, the as-build information is provided to the Utility Owners on a monthly basis for progress reporting.

At the end of relocation efforts, a complete facility as-build can be provided to the Utility Owner in the requested format for record updates.

RFID Marker Installation Process

Step 1



Transfer template
from the PC to the
RFID locator

Step 2



Program Ball
which transfers
information from the
locator to the RFID
Marker

Step 3



Install RFID Marker
above utility

Abandoned Facilities Verified



Overview of Benefits

Enhances damage prevention and public safety throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Conveys the knowledge obtained from the VDOT design and field operations to the Utility Owners.

Enables utility companies to work together.

RFID tags become the backbone of the GPS system and provides specific information for future use by the Contractors, Locators and Designers.

Creates a linear GPS segment that can be used to establish the zone of protection for the specific utility when construction equipment is outfitted with GPS enabled digging trigger mechanisms



Does the use of the advanced technologies increase the accuracy of the underground utility locates?

Yes

RFID
TREE

8 11 2004



Actual

24-10
900 BEND

11:41 AM



13 10:04AM



**Survey
10' offset**

8:17:51 AM

Mapping Solutions utilizing GPS and RFID technologies



Shea Ridings
On-Time Utility Solutions



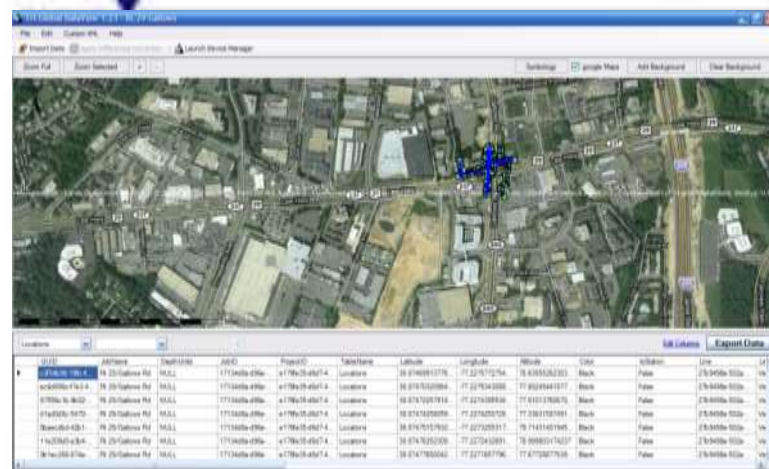
Marker ID + GPS
Coordinates



Data Collected in
NUAG prescribed format



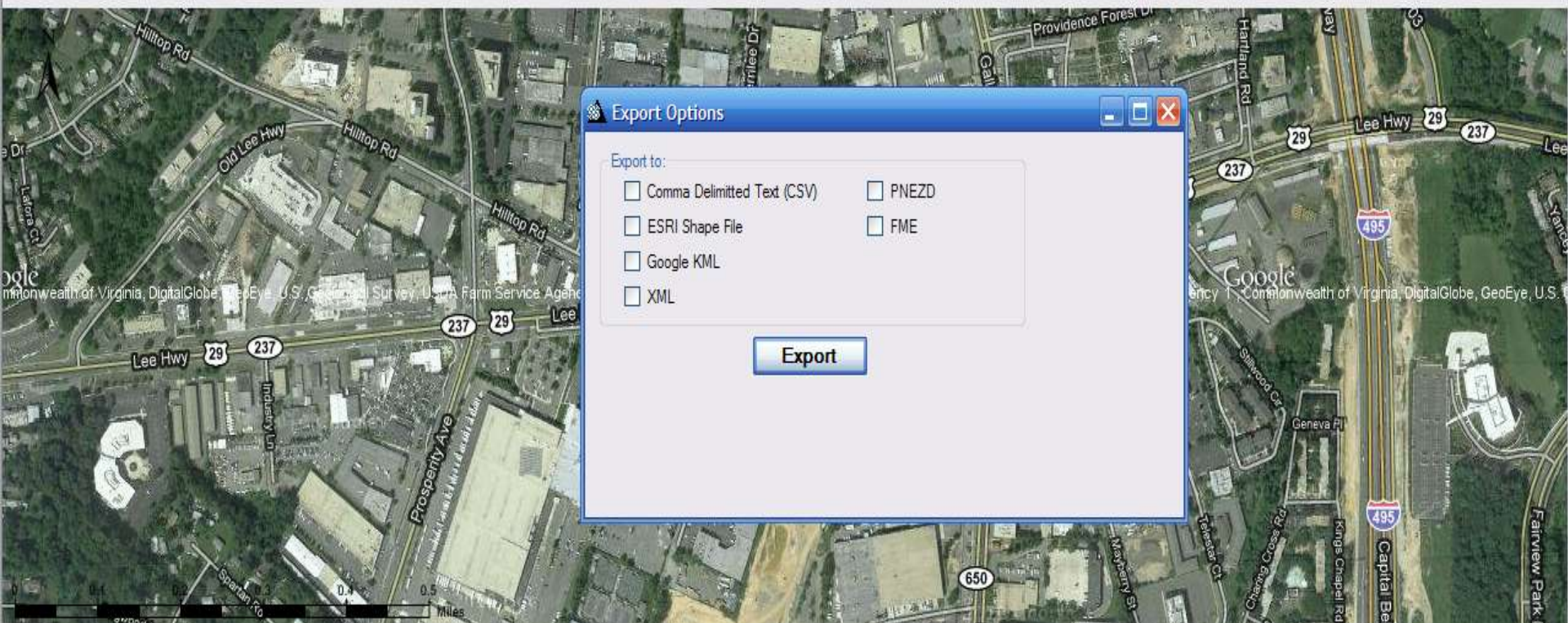
Data Synchronization with Exor Spatial Database



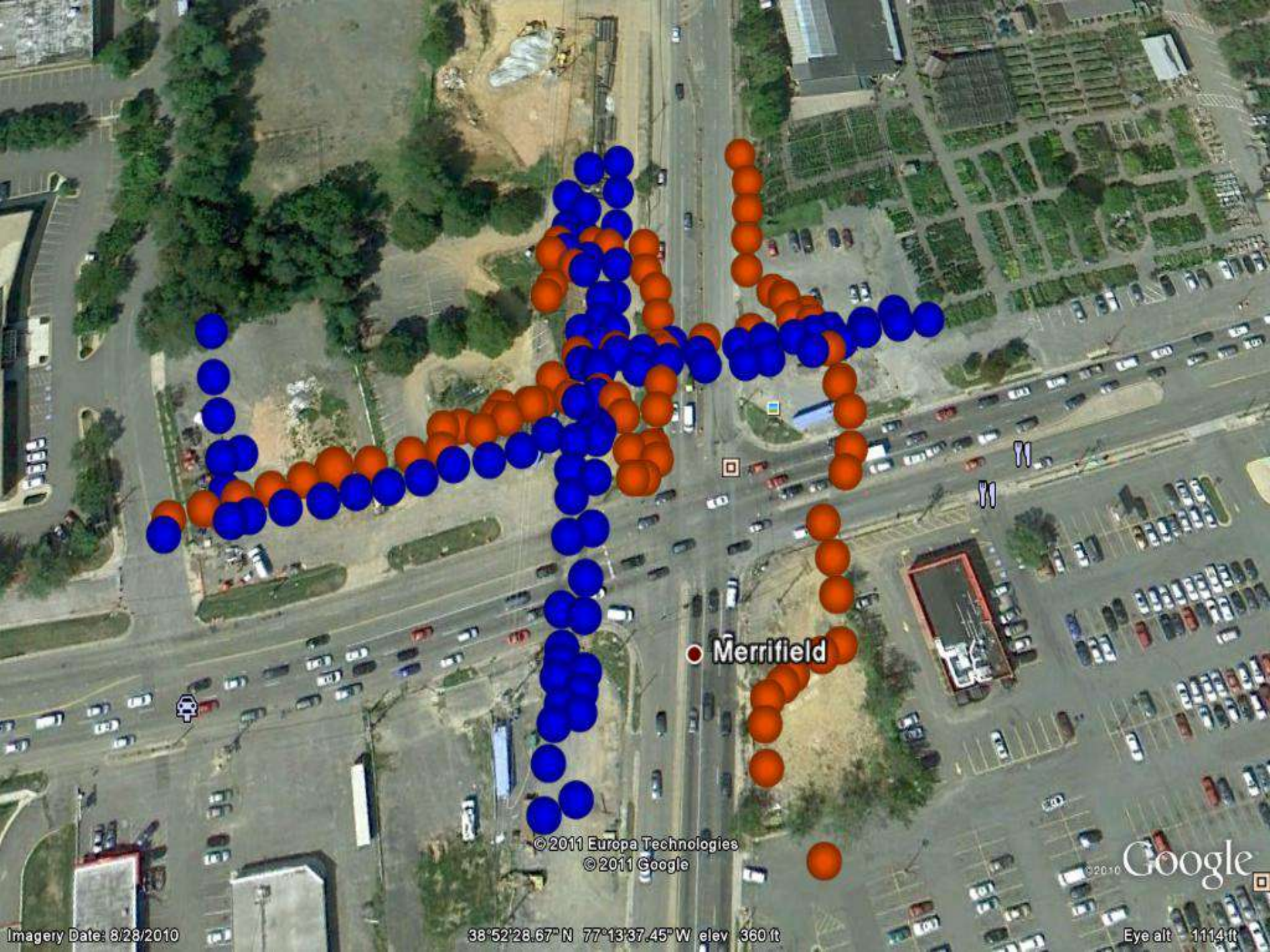
Hosted, shared data

ID Marker
Read

RFID Marker



	GUID	JobName	DepthUnits	JobID	ProjectID	TableName	Latitude	Longitude	Altitude	Color	IsStation	Line	Li
▶	c3f54b96-19fb-4...	Rt 29/Gallows Rd	NULL	17134d8a-d96e...	e176fe35-d6d7-4...	Locations	38.87469913776...	-77.2275772754...	76.63555262303...	Black	False	27b9498e-502a-...	Ve
	ec6d896c-f7e3-4...	Rt 29/Gallows Rd	NULL	17134d8a-d96e...	e176fe35-d6d7-4...	Locations	38.87470320964...	-77.2275343088...	77.80245441877...	Black	False	27b9498e-502a-...	Ve
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	0b1ec266-874a-...	Rt 29/Gallows Rd	NULL	17134d8a-d96e...	e176fe35-d6d7-4...	Locations	38.87477650042...	-77.2271657796...	77.67729877539...	Black	False	27b9498e-502a-...	Ve



● Merrifield

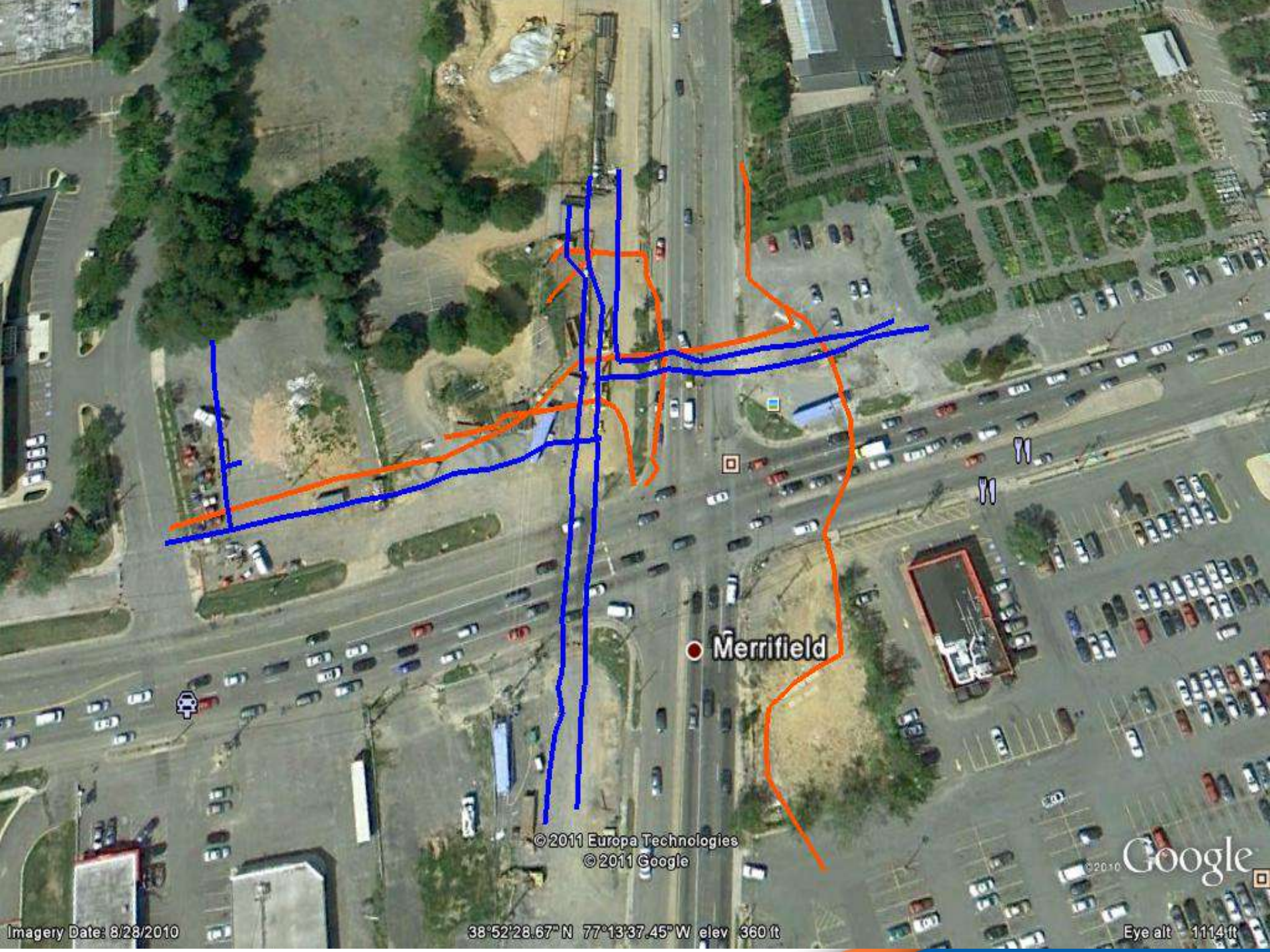
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Google

Imagery Date: 8/28/2010

38°52'28.67" N 77°13'37.45" W elev 360 ft

Eye alt 1114 ft



● Merrifield

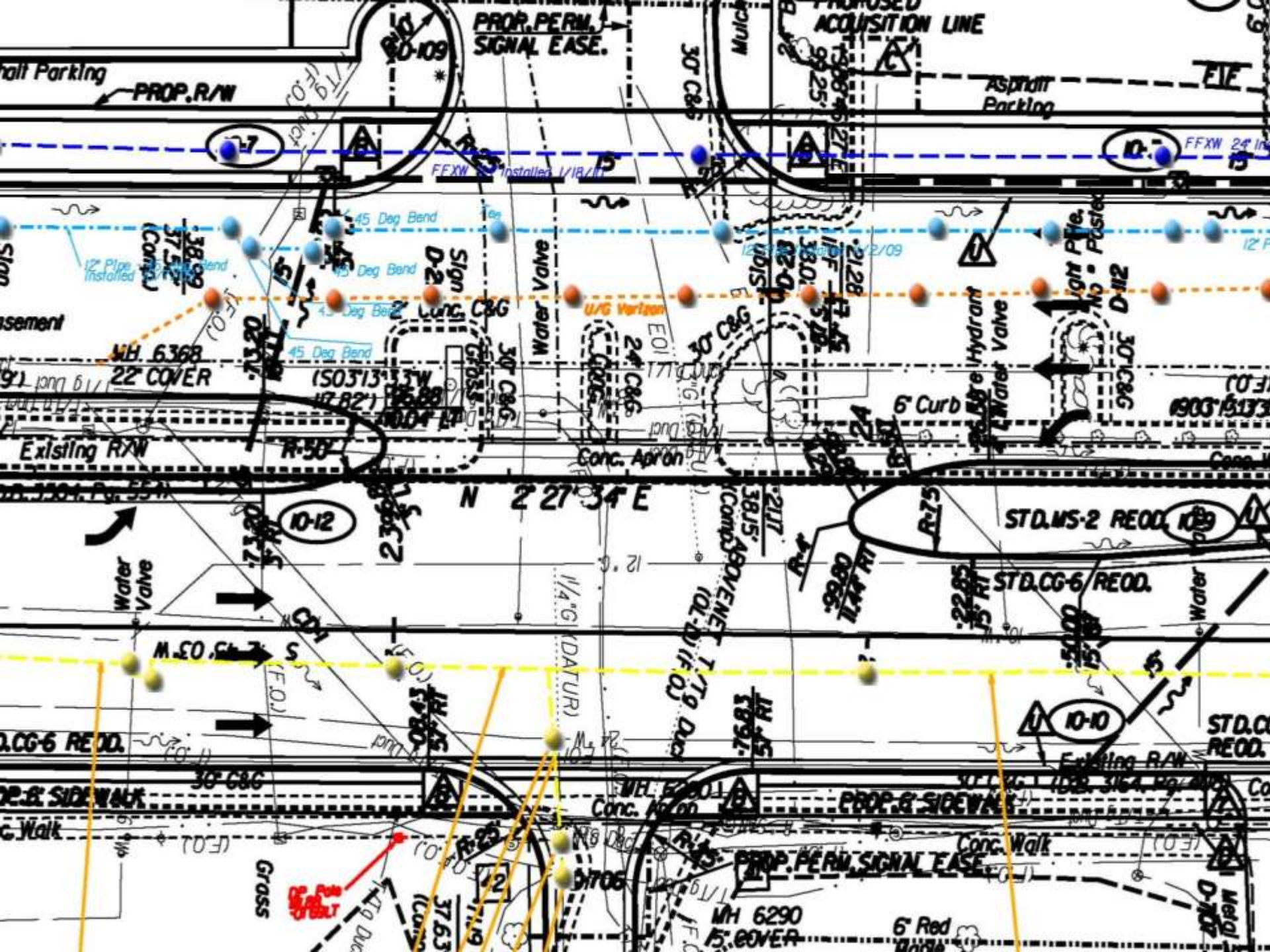
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Imagery Date: 8/28/2010

38°52'28.67" N 77°13'37.45" W elev 360 ft

Eye alt 1114 ft



RFID: pop-up informational tags active in PDF files.

Active Marker Ball
ACTIVE MARKER BALL #9359

2/26/2009 12:29:03 PM

Options

Serial ID: 000-000-9359

Company: Washington Gas

Description: 8" Steel Gas

Elevation: 371.25

Station: 92+00 (Lee Highway)

Latitude: 38 Deg 52.5055 Min N

Longitude: 077 Deg 13.4549 Min W

Existing Utility X-ing
ACTIVE MARKER BALL #9345

2/26/2009 12:35:29 PM

Options

Serial ID: 000-000-9345

Company: Washington Gas

Description: 8" Steel Gas (Existing
Water X-ing)

Elevation: 372.89

Station: 92+61 (Lee Highway)

Latitude: 38 Deg 52.5079 Min N

Longitude: 077 Deg 13.4439 Min W

Marker Ball #000-073-8130

4/12/2011 2:24:56 PM

PWSA

Options

Serial ID: 000-073-8130

Company: PWSA

Description: 6" Sewer

Address: 7518 Linton Hall Road

Type: Clean Out

Latitude: 38 Deg 47.6922 Min N

Longitude: 077 Deg 36.8212 Min W

Marker Ball #000-073-8132

4/12/2011 2:24:56 PM

PWSA

Options

Serial ID: 000-073-8132

Company: PWSA

Description: 6" Sewer

Address: 7518 Linton Hall Road

Type: Tangent

Latitude: 38 Deg 47.7070 Min N

Longitude: 077 Deg 36.8057 Min W

Marker Ball #000-073-8124

4/12/2011 2:24:56 PM

PWSA

Options

Serial ID: 000-073-8124

Company: PWSA

Description: 6" Sewer

Address: 7518 Linton Hall Road

Type: Tee

Latitude: 38 Deg 47.7145 Min N

Longitude: 077 Deg 36.7886 Min W

SAN MH
TOP=356.96
INV.(IN)=357.51
INV.(OUT)=347.41

10" SAN

Brush

10" S

10" S

24" W

24"

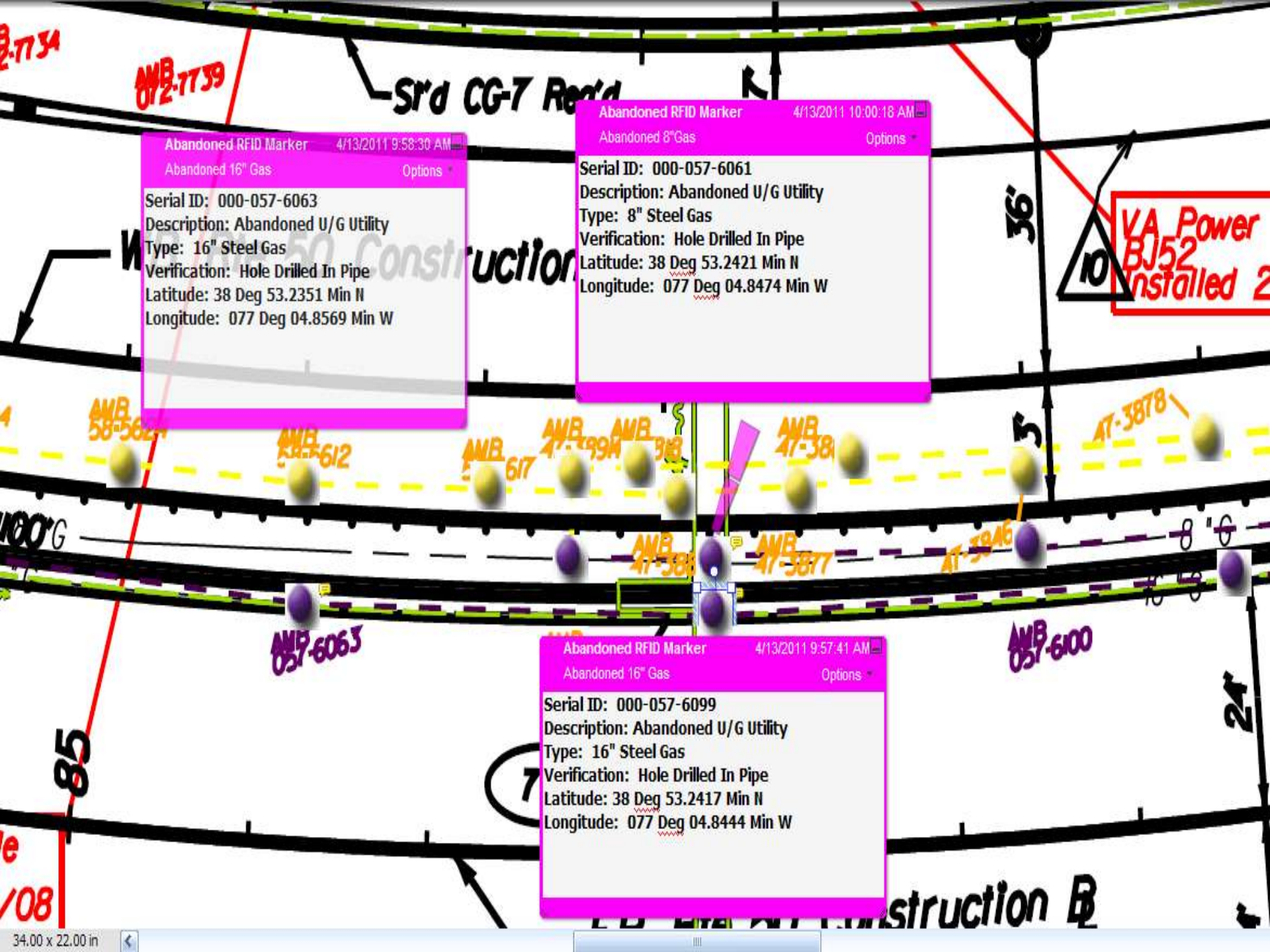
13-3

3-4

348.42
18.41
61/1

107
61/1
(18.41)
107

61/1



New Initiatives

Install programmable RFID tags during the preliminary engineering stage of the project when the existing utilities are designated as part of the beginning phase of the best value plan concept.

VUPS, GTI, and VDOT are involved in an initiative to provide the RFID information to the locating community.

Consideration is being made to implement this system into the Land Use Permit acquisition requirements.

Cost Analysis

Rt.29/Gallows Rd. Project

Possibilities with RFID Program

Total Utility Investment – \$15M

Cost = \$10,000

Costs includes:

- **Materials**
- **Programming**
- **Installation**

Possibilities without RFID Program

Damage

Repair of facility

Contractor down time

Delay to traveling public

Fire/Rescue/Police response

Lost revenue for property owner

Lost revenue for utility company

The average cost to install a 24" water main is approximately \$145.00 per linear foot.


The cost to install RFID tags at a rate of 4 marker balls per hundred linear feet of pipe as previously specified increases the cost per linear foot by **\$ 0.60**

Questions???

**Contact Matt McLaughlin at:
Matt.McLaughlin@VDOT.Virginia.gov**

or

**Shea Ridings at:
sridings@ousLLC.com**



the Energy to Lead

Damage Prevention Research at GTI

-
- > Alicia Farag, GTI
 - > Virginia DPC
 - > April 26th 2011

Confidentiality – The information contained in this presentation is proprietary and confidential. Use of this information is limited to members of OTD and their employees, and may only be used for the internal purposes of the members and may not be disclosed to third parties.

Project Overview

- > Intelligent Utility System
- > GPS Based Excavation Encroachment Notification
- > Acoustic Plastic Pipe Locator
- > VDOT Marker Ball Program

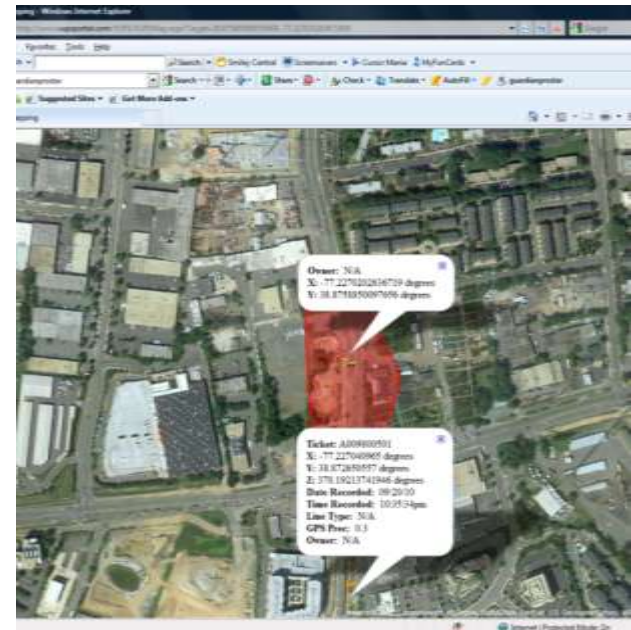
Intelligent Utility System

- > Smart phones and tablets devices for field data collection for compliance
 - CP readings
 - Marker ball and RFID tag installations
 - HCA surveys
- > Applications for Android and iPad/iPhone
- > Incorporating supporting technologies
 - Touch screen, GPS, cameras, Bluetooth, RFID
- > Leveraging cloud computing for temporary data storage
- > Direct GIS integration methodology



GPS Based Excavation Encroachment Notification

- > Phase 3A – GPS tracks excavation activity and creates a notification if digging is occurring outside of a valid one call ticket
- > Phase 3B – GPS tracks bucket location and creates a notification if digging is occurring near a utility line
- > New pilot project in New York and maybe Texas



Acoustic Plastic Pipe Locator

- > Locates small diameter plastic pipe up to five feet deep
- > Tested in various soil conditions
- > Commercial agreement with Sensit Technologies



VDOT Marker Ball Program

- > Other states interested in implementing similar programs
- > Marker ball process is being incorporated into other research initiatives
 - Transportation Research Board project to develop a process to prevent excavation damage on DOT projects that result from inaccurate and outdated maps

Thank You!

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